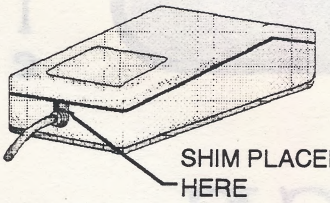
VMUG
VICTORIA MACINTOSH USERS GROUP

Victoria Macintosh Users Group

12 items | 235 K in Newsletter | Last modified May '90

Bytes & Pieces

Over the past few months, my SE's mouse has started to show the effects of countless kilometers of travel and (ab)use. The symptom: frequently double clicks during a single click or while just holding onto the case. The solution: I had the mouse checked out by a local tech, and was told that the plastic of the case does wear out (become soft) and the button hinge doesn't work as well as it originally did. Apparently, the only real solution was a replacement mouse or track-ball. I decided to try to solve the problem myself - when money is involved I'll try anything first - and found that by inserting a thin shim, as indicated on the diagram, that the problem was solved. I used about three layers of plastic (similar to overhead transparency film) and placed it on top of the cable between the cable and the top of the mouse case. The added clearance provided enough tolerance to grant my mouse a stay of execution.



The logo contest received a number of submissions, less than we had anticipated, but all quite good. The problem is how to decide, so we have decided to let the members choose the winner at the next meeting, so come prepared to choose the winner of the contest.

Spring must have truly come. The members have once again found the longer, warmer days and being no longer house-bound have found better things to do than sit at their trusty Macs and write words of wisdom. Thank goodness that our material from the MUG News Service is finally coming through, but I must admit I find it more interesting to hear about what the members of this group have to say, so please don't forget to keep writing articles for our newsletter.

Greg ⌘.

WHAT'S HOT?

Local Manager becomes Newspaper Celebrity

A recent issue of Macintosh News, a newspaper for reselling, included a short report from the Macworld show in San Fransisco.

"At one of the press receptions I ran into several Canadian resellers in town to take in the show and asked one of them what was hot at the show.

The beer ...

'The beer', said Richard Catinus, manager of Advantage Computers Ltd. in Victoria, British Columbia."

Richard went on to explain how he felt that the 128M byte 3.5-inch Removeable Erasable Optical (REO) 130 disk drive from Pinnacle Micro looks like a real winner.

Perhaps at our May Meeting Richard will tell us more about this and other products he saw at the show, and about the *hot beer*.

Next Meeting

May 10th
7:30 PM

James Bay
Community School Library

Featuring:
A Celestrial and Worldly Tour by Duart MacLean with Voyager & Concepts Atlas

Reports from the recent MacWorld show in San Francisco

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President's Pad

Well I was impressed! With the dazzling "photographs" on the screen of the Macintosh IIfx and with the 14 seconds it took to draw the "sombrero" math function compared to the 29 minutes for a Macintosh SE. Although out of reach to most of us mortals still a pretty impressive machine to see and learn about. Our thanks to Al Vintr for getting the fx to our meeting (one of the first groups in Canada to see some of the new hardware).

For the May meeting, Duart MacLean, one of our members, will take us on a celestial tour of the universe with the Voyager, planetarium program, and on a terrestrial tour of the planet with Concept Atlas, with explanations about astronomy and geography. In addition, we hope to have a report or two from the people who were lucky enough to get down to the recent Macworld show in San Francisco.

Planning for the Macintosh Fair continues to progress, I will leave the details to Konrad's report elsewhere in the newsletter and his report at the next meeting.

As yet we have not proceeded to purchase an interface for an LCD Projection Pad although it is still very much a priority. In the meantime, will also ensure that a system is available when needed.

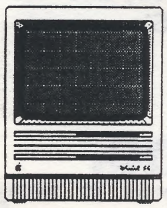
The Green Macintosh User session held on Saturday, April 21st and was poorly attended, 7 or 8 people, 3 of those were the executive! For that reason a session is not planned for May. If you want another session please express it at the meeting and help organize it.

The retail stores seem to be rather quiet on recent Saturdays, maybe it's the weather. In any case, I would urge everyone to check out one of your local retail stores, with our discounts — their prices aren't that bad, and we are the ones who scream when they don't open on Saturdays, for me it's the only day I get into Victoria as I work out towards Sidney. Aardvark, Advantage, Bolen Books, Byte, SofTA, and Tesseract have shown their support of VMUG through there advertising in the newsletter and member discounts, so let's give them our business and make it worth their while to stay open. The savings on one purchase can more than cover what it cost to join VMUG!

Speaking of support, it's rather disappointing to hear that Greg has not received any articles for the newsletter other than Cym Williams' Notes on the last meeting, which are greatly appreciated by both myself and Greg. Let's not let the flow of articles dry up, start on next month's now!

Robin ⌘.

This newsletter was created on 2.5 megabyte Macintosh SE with 90 megs of hard-drive, using Ready-Set-Go 4.5 (provided by Letraset to the user group) and printed on a General Computers Personal Laser Printer.



Volunteers Unite !

Many of us who have been a member of VMUG for some time have felt a desire to give back some of what we have received from the group. We have done this by getting involved in our varying areas of expertise. By being a VMUG volunteer, you too, can help those that need help like you did in the beginning and gain a sense of accomplishment.

Now is the time to become involved in "your" group as a volunteer. Many events are now in the planning stages, so get involved. If you are interested in being a VMUG volunteer please contact one of the executive listed in the directors and contacts section of the newsletter.

A Message From
The Vice President

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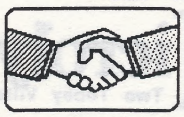

BBS's in Victoria

There are now two Macintosh BBS's (Bulletin Board Services) in town. These are provided for the use of those with computers and modems as a place to get and give help, send and receive shareware programs and leave electronic mail for other users.

Advantage BBS - 385-8686

Macintosh Way BBS - 388-4183

Both run up to 2400 BAUD, and the usual settings of **No** Parity - **8** data bits - **1** stop bit - **Full duplex**.

Many of the members are now using modems on a regular basis, and with the new software packages, it is becoming a joy to communicate via Modem. Again, you do not have to worry about viruses — they cannot infect your system by dialling up a service. Most BBS operators are very careful to check that the programs available for downloading are free of any 'bugs'!

Advantage BBS has a special section of their board set aside for registered VMUG members where mail for other members and uploads to the executive or items for the newsletter may be placed. To gain access to this section, leave a message to the SYSOP.

Suitcase upon suitcase...

Fred Showker

During a recent conversation about fonts, I was asked a rather puzzling question. A fellow user group member was having trouble with SuitCase II. Since the problem didn't sound like any I had run across before, we went to take a look at his system.

SuitCase and Master Juggler are marvelous programs for adding and removing DAs and fonts into your system while "on-the-fly". Yet my friend could not seem to get any other sizes of Helvetica other than 10 and 12pt. He assured me that he had all the sizes installed - and sure enough, upon close examination, he did have them installed in the suspect suitcase. We tried his word processing program after running SuitCase II in the finder to install the fonts, only to find no sizes other than 10 and 12.

Suitcase... *(cont'd)*

There's one thing that has perhaps been overlooked: the System. We transferred to the Font/DA Mover and, sure enough, there we found 10 and 12 point Helvetica still installed. We promptly removed them, along with Times, Courier, and the other fonts he intended to use from SuitCase. After a quick re-start, we installed the suitcase via SuitCase II and all was well in the font size menu.

You see, if SuitCase (or Font Juggler) finds a requested font already in your system it doesn't bother to install any additional sizes. It simply assumes the entire font is loaded. This is for the protection of your Mac's sanity - and to make sure your documents don't run a-muck with "illegal" font ID numbers.

When you convert to any of these very useful programs, you should go ahead and remove all the fonts from your actual System.

Build external "suitcases" with the font families as you desire and simply move them into and out of the system as necessary. This not only cleans up your font numbering problems, but allows a slimmer more "virgin" system as well. And, as always, read your manual fully before using any program.

("60 Second Windows" are from the studios of Showker Graphic Arts & Design, and are brought to you by the Mug News Service.)

MUG NEWS SERVICE, 1990

MEMBER MNS MUG NEWS SERVICE TM

Macintosh Fair

A group of VMUG members have established a committee to organize a Mac Fair, scheduled for this Fall. Several meetings have recently been held to work out the basic approach and the various events.

Currently the show consists of user demonstrations, Apple retailer exhibits, commercial software displays, a Mac-in-education display, a public domain software sales booth, a Mac video mini-theatre, a Mac games display.and a variety of seminars The organizers are trying to exhibit a wide variety of hardware, including CAD, Graphics, Video Production, CD ROM, and Midi systems. Mac Users in the professional, educational, and home setting should all find the exhibits of interest.

VMUG members and local commercial users have agreed to demonstrate a wide variety of programs and peripherals. Desktop publishing, text recognition systems, astronomy, accounting,

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genealogy programs, graphics, animation, and locally developed software are some of the items that will be presented as User Demos. This aspect of the Fair should make it much more interesting to the public than a standard computer trade fair.

The Fair will be very informal; even the retail exhibitors plan to leave their ties at home. It will really be a Mac party. If you would like to participate by presenting a User Demo or by helping with the organization please contact a committee member.

The Fair committee includes:

ADVERTISING:

Tom Masters, Greg Ruffell

FACILITIES:

Vicky Vickers

VOLUNTEER STAFFING:

Frank Kennel, Marnie Scholes

CORPORATE CONTACTS:

Graham Scholes

MACINTOSH IN EDUCATION:

Doug Alderson

EVENTS & DEMONSTRATIONS:

Konrad Kordoski (384-7505)

The initial response by retailers and Mac Users has been really positive so we're looking forward to a great event.

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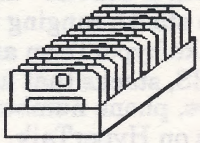
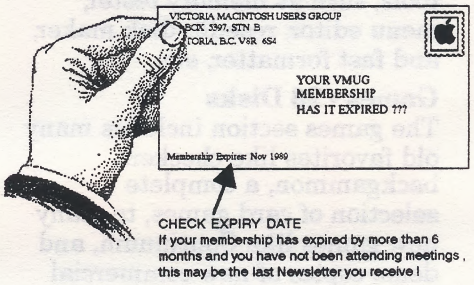
QUALITY DSDD DISKS

Available at the incredibly LOW price of $1 per Disk (for VMUG Members only)



See Ivan at the Meeting.

Available in packs of 10 with labels, individually without labels.



Want Ads

Wanted: We are always looking for bits and pieces of info we can pass on. Questions, tips, rumors, hints, reviews, anything that you'd like to tell other Mac users. Then use your Mac and write it down and pass it along to us at VMUG. All contributions will be greatly appreciated.

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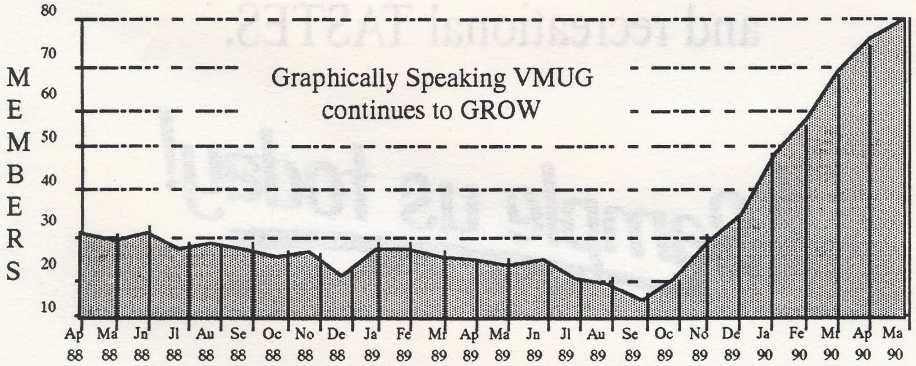

Welcome to the following New Members

February - Peter Paterson, Mike,Dave,Donna Dlugos, John Holland, Peter Walter, David A. Peacock, Bob Schwartz, Wanda Lewis, Richard Dabrowski, Don North, John Epp, Rick Rice

March - Sheilagh Ogilvie, Peter S.J. Michaux, Rob Ruffell, Sheila Watts & Ron Webber, Blaine Dickson, Al Tyler

April - Jeff Crnojevic, Jan Miers, Barry Hack, Stephen Cox, Graham A. Brown

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Submissions on any subject relevant to the Macintosh, or computing in general are welcome. The deadline for submissions and advertising is the 4th Thursday of the month, two weeks after the regular monthly meeting. Contact the Editor directly for details.

Advertising Rates

Full Page	$40.00
Half Page	$20.00
Quarter Page	$10.00
Eighth Page	$5.00
Business Card	$2.00
Unclassified	Free to Members

Victoria Macintosh Users Group

The Victoria Macintosh Users Group is an informal group of people with an interest in the Apple™ Macintosh®. Membership is open to all. Individual or family membership is $20 a year, guests are welcome to sample a meeting or two for $1 per meeting.

VMUG does not condone in any way, the illegal copying of copyright computer programs and will not tolerate such practise at any user group function.

Meetings are held the 2nd Thursday of each month, in the library of the James Bay Community School, 140 Oswego Street, Victoria. Meetings start at 7:30 PM.

Directors and Contacts

Robin Tamasi	President 652-3588
Ivan Good	Vice-President PD Librarian 388-5634
Greg Ruffell	Editor/Publisher 479-4011
Terry Boorman	Member Check-In
Cym Williams	Meeting Notes
Jim Lodge	Ads & Telephoning
Konrad Kordosky	Macintosh Fair

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P.O. Box 5397, Stn. B
Victoria, B.C.,
V8R 6S4

⌘.

The PD Folder

First of all, the User Group thanks Advantage Computers for the special price they gave us on SAM II Utilities, for keeping our library in good health. It has already paid off by finding "ENVIR A" and "WDEF" viruses.

Well there is no Disk Of The Month for May, but there are some very good programs, DA's, and material in the regular library files. So, for those that are new to VMUG, or those that just aren't familiar with our PD/Shareware Library, I thought I'd take a moment to list the categories and the number of Disks.

Desk Accessories. - 6 Disks
These include everything from paint programs and clocks to game DA's like Puzzle and Daleks.

Laser Fonts - 1 Disk
ChicagoSymbols, SansSerif, ModernPrintBold, Cuneifont, TrondheimFont, KiddieKorner font and MacHumaine font. These are all shareware fonts and do require a shareware fee.

HyperCard Stacks - 23 Disks
We have stacks ranging from things like hyperTerm and hyperBBS, stacks that keep track of recipes, phone numbers to tutorials on HyperTalk.

Utilities - 12 Disks
This section contains those programs often referred to as tools, such as memory tester, menu editor, resedit, disk maker, and fast formatter, etc.

Games - 26 Disks
The games section includes many old favorites like checkers, backgammon, a complete selection of card games, to many new games like Continuum, and demo copies of new commercial games like Fools Errand and Tetris.

Demonstration - 24 Disks
We have demos of ImageStudio and Ready,Set,Go! and things like MacProject® II Demo, MacMusic Demo, Autosave II Demo, WingZ, dBase Mac, FoxBase and Buick Dimensions (1990).

Inits/Cdevs - 4 Disks
Those little files called "Startup Documents" & "Control Panel Documents" that you put in your system folder to enhance the way your system and Macintosh run.

Sounds - 6 Disks
These disks include many funny and novel sounds for use by programs like SoundMaster.

Fonts - 8 Disks
The fonts in the library range from Alice through Zurich.

TeleComm - 4 Disks
Includes telecommunication programs like Red Ryder 9.4, FreeTerm, and Zmodem, and DA's and utilities.

Applications - 10 Disks
Things like Calendar Maker, Banner Printer, TestMaker, Checkmate.

Info/Text Files - 4 Disks
The type of files here are things like RevUser #1-#6, HYPERCARD2.0 info, Pyro4Info Update, and Virus warnings.

Fkeys - 1 Disk
This disk includes some very good Fkeys like the New Fkey Manager and Resource Viewer 4.7.Fkey, Disk-File Utility 1.8.Fkey, and many more.

Mac II Stuff - 2 Disks
I've included a section for Mac II "only" stuff, these are programs, Cdevs etc that will work only on the Mac II.

Anti Virus - 2 Disks
The latest version release of all the popular antivirus detection and removal programs.

All software is available at the regular meetings, in between meetings please feel free to contact me at 388-5634 to arrange at time to drop off disks to be copied. Anyone that has recent versions or any new PD/Shareware that they would like to see in the Library should contact me directly.

"ShareWare" software is not public domain. It is intended as a "try before you buy" software distribution system. Try it out at no cost to you, and then if you like it and decide to use it, send the programmer their requested compensation, (typically $5 to $20). Easy Envelopes+, is well worth the $15.00 shareware fee.

Ivan - PD Librarian

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Notes - April 12th Meeting

- Robin met with Gerry Morgan of the Victoria School District as a follow up to their interest in User Groups. Their aim is to have closer ties with the various User Groups in order to refer teachers to them, share information,.and possibly make the the resources of the Teacher Exploration Centre at the S.J. Willis Educational Centre available. There will probably be more on this in the future.
- MACINTOSH FAIR. Planning is underway for a fair to be held around October. Vicky Vickers gave a short report advising that several committees have been formed and help is required. Anyone with ideas or willing to help are asked to contact Konrad Kordoski or any member of the Executive.
- NEWSLETTER. Greg is pleased with the number of contributions received and urged the Group to keep them coming.
- PD LIBRARY. Ivan reported that the library continues to grow, that two Disks of the Month are available, and advised the members that the index to the library will be updated in May. There is an application called InitCdev on the April Disk of the Month which allows you to turn on and off the various inits in the System Folder, recommended for those who have a lot of inits in their System Folder.
- VIRUS ALERT. There is a new virus (ZUC) which causes the cursor to go crazy 90 seconds after startup. It is not malicious, ie. it doesn't destroy files but is very infectious. Disinfectant v1.7 and some of the commercial anti-virus programs should detect the infection. For more information on this and other Virus see the Virus Encyclopedia, the latest update to this HyperCard stack is April 5, 1990.

PRESENTATION

- Al Vintr, a Systems Representative with Apple Canada, talked about the organization of the Victoria office. In addition to Al, there is a Service Rep. and a Government Account Rep. Al demonstrated the impressive new Macintosh IIfx and also talked about the new products which Apple released in March.

Macintosh IIfx computer. Geared to the high end user, we were impressed by its speed. New extended keyboard. This one is more ergonomically designed than the others. Four new Mac display cards compatable with any Mac II.

System 6.0.5 Required for the fx model only.

- After a short break, the second half of the meeting was devoted to member news, tips, questions, and answers.

Cym Williams ⌘.

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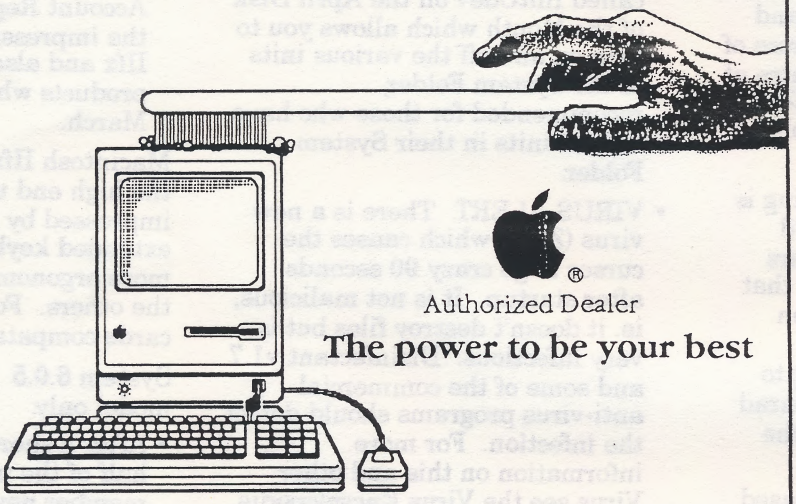

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